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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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Inspection Report

Minerals Regulatory Program

Report Date July 21, 2006

Supervisor 0021

Mine Name: Wilson/Silverbell
Operator Name: Umetco Minerals

Permit number: M0370027
Inspection Date: June 13, 2006
Time: 1:15-2:15 PM

Inspector(s): Paul Baker
Other Participants: Tony Bates and Frank Burnett
Mine Status: Reclaimed

Weather: Mostly clear, 80's

Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Deleterious Material	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Concurrent Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Water Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Purpose of Inspection:

The primary purpose of the inspection was to examine the vegetation on the Wilson waste pile.

Inspection Summary:

1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds

The operator has a contract with the Board as a reclamation surety but also has a corporate surety in the amount of \$4400 for revegetation of the Wilson waste pile. The operator filed a Request for Agency Action with the Board asking for release of the Board contract. This matter was heard at the June 28, 2006, hearing.

10. Revegetation

I took measurements of desirable perennial and biennial vegetation cover. To do this, I made ocular estimates of the cover at 32 locations on the waste pile. The mean cover value was 16.3 percent. The amount of cover varied from 0 to 75 percent.

I previously estimated cover in other areas of the mine and obtained a value of 45.0 percent.

Weighting the two cover values based on acreages, the total cover from perennials for the entire site is 40.6 percent. This compares with 34.0 percent in nearby undisturbed areas.

Desirable species found included intermediate wheatgrass, western wheatgrass, crested wheatgrass, fourwing saltbush, Palmer penstemon, Russian wild rye, and yellow sweet clover. Weeds included

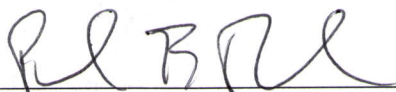
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kochia, cheatgrass, and Russian thistle. Although I had previously seen Russian knapweed at this site, I did not encounter it in vegetation sampling or see it in the area.

We discussed some of the actions the operator has taken to revegetate this site. Mssrs. Burnett and Bates said they had seeded five times. No soil was salvaged when the site was disturbed, so to obtain soil, the operator dug a pit near the base of the waste rock pile and pushed much of the material into this pit. Soil obtained from excavating the pit was used to cover the remainder of the pile.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

It appears the operator has met the revegetation success standard.

Inspector's Signature  Date: 7/27/06

PBB:pb

cc: Rahe Junge, Umetco

Attachment: Photos

ATTACHMENT

Photographs

M0370027, Wilson/Silverbell Mine, Umetco

Inspection Dated: June 13, 2006; Report Dated: July 21, 2006



Photo 1. West side of the Wilson waste pile.



Photo 3. The south side of the waste pile.



Photo 2. The top of the waste pile looking south.



Photo 4. The top of the waste pile looking north.